1976

Kentucky Law Survey: Introduction

Kentucky Law Journal

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INTRODUCTION

July 1975 through June 1976, the period covered by this Survey, was an important one for Kentucky law. In addition to the usual number of cases worthy of comment by Survey authors, there was a regular session of the Kentucky Legislature. Perhaps the most important change, however, is not covered in the Survey at all. This is the complete restructuring of Kentucky’s court system approved by the voters in November 1975. This change began when the old Court of Appeals became the new Supreme Court on January 1, 1976, and continued when enabling legislation was passed by a special session of the General Assembly which began in November 1976. Because this was really outside the survey period, a thorough discussion of the new system will await next year’s Survey. As a concession to this change, however, Kentucky’s highest court has been referred to as the Kentucky Supreme Court throughout the Survey even though many of the decisions discussed were written while it was called the Court of Appeals. No decisions of the new Court of Appeals are included because that court was not yet in existence during the survey year.

As always, the Journal is grateful to the Survey authors who devote their time, knowledge, and effort to make the Survey a vital part of the Kentucky Law Journal. Their contributions are a constant assistance to the bench and bar, and this Journal is pleased to provide a forum for their scholarly expression on recent developments in Kentucky law.

The Editors